

IN THE CLAIMS

1-29. (cancelled)

30. (currently amended) An information processing method, comprising:

obtaining content data to be broadcast by digital broadcast transmission, the content data including at least one of video content data or audio content data;

generating content storage control information, the content storage control information specifying at least one condition selected from the group consisting of (a) a time interval extending from the time of recording the content data is recorded onto the recording medium; (b) a permitted number of times for copying the content data recorded on the recording medium; and (c) a permitted number of times for ~~at least one of (i) reproducing the content data recorded on the recording medium to output at least one of (i) video to a monitor for viewing, or (ii) reproducing the content data to output~~ audio to a speaker for listening;

inserting the content storage control information into a control message;

multiplexing the content data with the control message by a first information processing apparatus to produce multiplexed data and transmitting the multiplexed data via the digital broadcast transmission;

receiving and demultiplexing the multiplexed data by a second information processing apparatus to receive the content storage control information and the content data;

recording the received content data onto a recording medium by the second information processing apparatus; and

deleting the recorded content data from the recording medium by the second information processing apparatus when the at least one condition specified by the content storage control information is met.

31. (cancelled)

32. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the content storage control information specifies a charging value to be divided by a number n when the content data is reproduced an n th time.

33. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the content storage control information specifies the time interval, the time interval being at least one of (a) measured from the time of recording the content data received through a broadcast transmission, as indicated directly by the content data; and (b) measured from a time at which the content data has been copied a permitted number of times.

34. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 30, further comprising encoding the content data, wherein the control message includes an entitlement control message (ECM) and the step of multiplexing the content data includes multiplexing the encoded content data with the ECM via an MPEG2 (Motion Picture Experts Group 2) transport stream.

35. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the step of multiplexing the content data includes multiplexing the encoded content data in a carousel manner, and inserting at least a portion of the information of the control message into an adaptation header of a DII (Download Info Indication) packet of the digital broadcast transmission.

36. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the step of multiplexing the content data includes multiplexing the content data in a carousel manner and inserting at least a portion of the information of the control message into an expire descriptor of a DII (Download Info Indication) packet of the digital broadcast transmission.

37-39. (cancelled)

40. (previously presented) The information processing method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the content storage

control information specifies a charging value to be charged for at least one of reproducing or copying the content data an nth time by the information processing apparatus.

41. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a receiver operable to receive a digital broadcast transmission and demultiplex the received transmission into content data and content storage control information; and

a data recording device coupled to the receiver, operable to record the content data onto a recording medium, wherein the content storage control information specifies at least one condition for deleting the content data from the recording medium, the condition selected from the group consisting of (a) a time interval extending from the time of recording the content data is recorded onto the recording medium; (b) a permitted number of times for copying the content data recorded on the recording medium; and (c) a permitted number of times for ~~at least one of (i) reproducing the content data~~ recorded on the recording medium to output at least one of (i) video to a monitor for viewing, or (ii) reproducing the content data to output audio to a speaker for listening,

wherein the recording device is operable to delete the recorded content data from the recording medium when the at least one condition specified by the content storage control information is met.

42. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 41, wherein the content storage control information specifies a charging value to be charged for at least one of reproducing or copying the content data an nth time by the information processing apparatus.

43. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 41, wherein the at least one condition specified by the content storage control information

includes the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data, and the content storage control information specifies a charging value to be divided in relation to a number n when the content data is reproduced an n th time.

44. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 41, wherein the content storage control information specifies the time interval in relation to at least one of: (a) the time of recording the content data from the digital broadcast transmission; (b) the time of copying the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for copying the content data; or (c) the time of reproducing the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data.

45. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 41, wherein the content storage control information indicates the time interval and the time interval is measured from the final permitted time that the content data is copied from the permitted number of times for copying the content data.

46. (currently amended) An information processing method, comprising:

receiving a digital broadcast transmission;

demultiplexing the received transmission into content data and content storage control information, the content data including at least one of video content data or audio content data, and the content storage control information specifying at least one condition selected from the group consisting of (a) a time interval extending from the time of recording the content data is recorded onto the recording medium; (b) a permitted number of times for copying the content data recorded on the recording medium; and (c) a permitted number of times for ~~at least one of (i)~~ reproducing the content data recorded on the recording medium to output at least one of (i) video to a

monitor for viewing, or (ii) ~~reproducing the content data to~~
~~output~~ audio to a speaker for listening;

recording the content data onto a recording medium; and

deleting the recorded content data from the recording medium when the at least one condition specified by the content storage control information is met.

47. (previously presented) The information processing method as claimed in claim 46, wherein the content storage control information specifies a charging value to be charged for at least one of reproducing or copying the content data an nth time by the information processing apparatus.

48. (previously presented) The information processing method as claimed in claim 46, wherein the at least one condition specified by the content storage control information includes the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data, and the content storage control information specifies a charging value to be divided in relation to a number n when the content data is reproduced an nth time.

49. (previously presented) The information processing method as claimed in claim 46, wherein the content storage control information specifies the time interval in relation to at least one of: (a) the time of recording the content data from the digital broadcast transmission; (b) the time of copying the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for copying the content data; or (c) the time of reproducing the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data.

50. (previously presented) The information processing method as claimed in claim 46, wherein the content storage control information specifies the time interval and the time interval is measured from the final permitted time that the content data is copied from the permitted number of times for copying the content data.

51. (currently amended) A computer-readable recording medium having instructions recorded thereon, the instructions being executable by an information processing apparatus to perform a method, the method comprising:

receiving a digital broadcast transmission;

demultiplexing the received transmission into content data and content storage control information, the content data including at least one of video content data or audio content data, and the content storage control information specifying at least one condition selected from the group consisting of (a) a time interval extending from the time of recording the content data is recorded onto the recording medium; (b) a permitted number of times for copying the content data recorded on the recording medium; and (c) a permitted number of times for ~~at least one of (i) reproducing the content data recorded on the recording medium to output at least one of (i) video to a monitor for viewing, or (ii) reproducing the content data to output~~ audio to a speaker for listening;

recording the content data onto a recording medium; and

deleting the recorded content data from the recording medium when the at least one condition specified by the content storage control information is met.

52. (previously presented) The recording medium as claimed in claim 51, wherein the content storage control information specifies a charging value to be charged for at least one of reproducing or copying the content data an nth time by the information processing apparatus.

53. (previously presented) The recording medium as claimed in claim 51, wherein the at least one condition specified by the content storage control information includes the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data, and the content storage control information specifies a charging value

to be divided in relation to a number n when the content data is reproduced an n th time.

54. (previously presented) The recording medium as claimed in claim 53, wherein the content storage control information specifies the time interval in relation to at least one of: (a) the time of recording the content data from the digital broadcast transmission; (b) the time of copying the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for copying the content data; or (c) the time of reproducing the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data.

55. (previously presented) The recording medium as claimed in claim 51, wherein the content storage control information indicates the time interval and the time interval is measured from the final permitted time that the content data is copied from the permitted number of times for copying the content data.

56. (previously presented) The recording medium as claimed in claim 51, wherein the method further comprises recording the content storage control information onto the recording medium, wherein the step of deleting the recorded content data includes reading the content storage control information from the recording medium to determine the at least one condition.

57. (previously presented) The information processing method as claimed in claim 30, further comprising recording the received content storage control information onto the recording medium by the second information processing apparatus, wherein the step of deleting the recorded content data includes reading the content storage control information from the recording medium to determine the at least one condition.

58. (previously presented) The information processing method as claimed in claim 46, further comprising recording the content storage control information onto the recording medium,

wherein the step of deleting the recorded content data includes reading the content storage control information from the recording medium to determine the at least one condition.

59. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 41, wherein the recording device is further operable to record the received content storage control information onto the recording medium, and to read the content storage control information from the recording medium to determine the at least one condition.